

# **UNAPPROVED**

## **CUMBERLAND SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**A regular meeting of the Cumberland School Committee was held on Thursday, December 9, 2010 at the Cumberland High School Auditorium, 2600 Mendon Road, Cumberland, Rhode Island.**

**Members Present: Jeff Mutter, Lisa Beaulieu, Linda Teel, John Gibbons, Daniel Pedro, Erika Sanzi, Earl Wood**

**Staff Present: Donna A. Morelle, Ed., Superintendent, Joseph A. Rotella, Esq., Director of Administration, Dr. Susan Carney, Assistant Superintendent**

### **Agenda Item #1: Chairman Convenes Meeting**

**Chairman Mutter convened the meeting at 7:35 p.m.**

### **Agenda Item #2: Pledge of Allegiance**

### **Agenda Item #3: Approval of Agenda**

**Mr. Mutter noted that the payment of bills was not posted correctly for this meeting, so it will be on the agenda for the 12/15/10 meeting. Mr. Wood made a motion to approve the agenda, 2nd by Mr. Pedro and Mr. Gibbons, approved 7-0.**

#### **Agenda Item #4: Student Government Report**

**In the past month the student government had a Grad Nite fundraiser – talent show – all proceeds went to Grad Nite, Turkey Basket collection was a success – delivered over 100 baskets to the monastery on 11/23, on 11/16 Junior Ring Ceremony. From December 1st – December 20th they will be collecting donations for the Adopt A Family Program – they have adopted 5 families, 12/20 Student Government Informational meeting to discuss the Adopt A Family Program and the upcoming winter ball (2/4/11), coat drive donations went very well – some were even donated to the Goodwill in Woonsocket, currently running a Giant Teddy Bear Raffle – all proceeds will go to the Make A Wish Foundation, there will also be a trip this month to Grandview Nursing Home so that time can be spent with the elders – enjoying holiday snacks and playing games! Dr. Morelle thanked the students for their participation in the Happy Basket Program – this year's success was exceptional!**

#### **Agenda Item #5: Chairperson's Report**

**Mr. Mutter reported that the Special Programs Sub-Committee reviewed the final draft from NESDEC and noted that the final report will be presented to the district on 12/15/10 at 6:30 p.m. in the Transitional Building Cafeteria. Dr. Morelle noted that an email will be sent to families and connected will be used to alert families and town officials of the meeting. All are urged to attend – the findings will impact our districts families.**

## **Agenda Item #6: Student Achievement**

### **A. Superintendent's Report on Teaching and Learning**

**Mr. Mutter began by saying that the NECAP results will be discussed at the January meeting – not tonight. Dr. Morelle stated that on January 13th when the results are reviewed, she will ask a team of leaders in the district to come in and contribute to the presentation that will be made.**

**Dr. Morelle went on to say that at the SC orientation workshop questions were asked about the Dana work in Mathematics, Literacy work and PBIS. So Dr. Morelle wanted to explain some of this and wanted to start with the backbone – which is BEP(Basic Education Program). She wants everyone to understand how the BEP connects to some of the things that they will be hearing about at the January meeting. The BEP is a document that is approved by the Board of Regents . The current BEP lists various ways to organize schools as long as it cuts across certain key areas. In our strategic plan we have seven areas that are considered to be “headlines”, learning and achievement, safe and supportive school, guiding curriculum, etc., and our schools have been aligned to these ideas. The BEP takes these headlines along with leadership, infrastructure, content that needs to be provided and sets some performance indicators. The Department of Education is finishing up some of the performance indicators with a small group of superintendents and Dr. Morelle is one of the superintendents. Dr. Morelle went on to say that the Cumberland Public Schools will lead the focus on learning and**

achievement by providing on site direction that guides leadership, identifies expectations and accountability for implementation of proven practices and addresses barriers to implement educational goals. Currently we are using a three pronged approach to improvement – it is not to say that everything in the BEP is not something that the district is trying to address on some level-you cannot do everything at once. In the past years the areas that needed the most help were literacy and mathematics, so the district has been focused on bringing in the right quality of support and resources – elementary has definitely benefited from this initiative and middle schools need to have the same quality and support, but to date the district has not been able to find the same level facilitator – this really needs to happen because there are students in the middle schools with literacy problems, etc. Dr. Morelle would like the SC to do some reading and research on the curriculum audit, school literacy and district literacy plans, core reading programs, progress monitoring system(AIMS Web), etc., she believes that by reading about all of these programs, etc., and how we got to each one of them, the SC will better understand the results that will be reviewed at next months meeting. Mr. Mutter said that he appreciated her thoughts and overview and thought that it would give the SC a better understanding regarding the results. Dr. Morelle also noted that the results in January will not be from this past Fall – the SC will be getting additional results 3-4 weeks after the January meeting. Mrs. Beaulieu asked Dr. Morelle to keep in mind, while going over results in January, where are at as far as capacity building and where we

**need to be.**

#### **Agenda Item #7: Comments from the Public**

**No comments at this time.**

#### **Agenda Item #8: Reports of Standing Committees**

**Mr. Wood noted that the Finance committee met earlier, but will report out at the 12/15 meeting. He told the members that each month they will get a packet of information, any questions or concerns regarding the figures can be addressed via email to Alex Prignano. He also noted that the November budget summary is out and will be emailed to each member.**

#### **Agenda Item #9: Approval of Minutes**

**Mrs. Beaulieu made a motion to approve the following minutes: A) Executive Session 10/14/10, Executive Session 10/18/10, Special Meeting 10/26/10, Executive Session 10/28/10, 2nd by Mr. Pedro, approved 4-0. Mrs. Sanzi, Mr. Gibbons, Mrs. Teel abstained from this vote.**

**Mr. Wood made a motion to approve the following minutes: A) Special Meeting 11/10/10, Workshop 11/18/10, Regular Meeting 11/18/10, Workshop 11/23/10, 2nd by Mr. Gibbons, approved 7-0.**

**Mr. Pedro made a motion to table B)Executive Session 10/28/10, 2nd by Mrs. Beaulieu, approved 7-0.**

**Mr. Pedro made a motion to approve the following minutes: B)Executive Session 10/14/10, Executive Session 10/18/10, Executive**

**Session 11/18/10, 2nd by Mrs. Beaulieu, but Mrs. Beaulieu had to withdraw the 2nd motion because the members wanted to vote separately on Executive Session 11/18/10. So Mrs. Beaulieu withdrew her motion and Mr. Pedro made a motion to approve B)Executive Session 10/14/10, Executive Session 10/18/10, 2nd by Mrs. Beaulieu, approved 4-0. Mrs. Sanzi, Mr. Gibbons, Mrs. Teel abstained from this vote.**

**Mr. Gibbons made a motion to approve B)Executive Session 11/18/10, 2nd by Mr. Wood, approved 7-0.**

#### **Agenda Item #10: New Business**

**A. Home School Instruction Requests 2010-2011 School Year – Dr. Carney had two requests before the committee, both were renewals, she had reviewed the applications and asked that the committee approve both requests. Mr. Gibbons made a motion to approve the requests, 2nd by Mr. Pedro and Mrs. Beaulieu, approved 7-0.**

**B. Appointment of Sub-Committees/Liaisons – Mr. Mutter noted that they have not finalized some of the committees but will do so at the January 13th meeting. The following liaisons have been appointed: Ashton – Mr. Gibbons, BFN – Mr. Pedro, Community – Mrs. Sanzi & Mrs. Beaulieu, CHS – Mrs. Beaulieu, Pre-School – Mr. Pedro, Garvin – Mr. Mutter, Cumb. Hill – Mr. Wood, McCourt Middle – Mr. Pedro, North Cumb. Middle – Mrs. Teel, Woonsocket Tech – Mr. Pedro, Dem. Prep. – Mrs. Sanzi & Mr. Gibbons. Mrs. Beaulieu said that she would stay on as the liaison for the Special Advisory Committee – she will be there for the January visit. Dr. Morelle noted that in the past, after the**

liaisons have been chosen, a letter from her office has gone out to notify the schools. Mr. Mutter agreed with this procedure- person to contact with questions will be Mr. Mutter.

#### **Agenda Item #11: Personnel Recommendations**

**Dr. Morelle had the following personnel recommendations:**

##### **Appointment**

**I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the appointment of Kathleen Heal, Classroom Assistant, at Ashton School effective 12/13/2010. (FTE: 1.0; Step n/a; Lane: n/a; Co-pay: 10.0%; budgeted)**

**Mr. Wood made a motion to approve this appointment, 2nd by Mrs. Beaulieu, approved 7-0.**

##### **Leave of Absence**

**I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the FMLA Medical Leave of Anna Maneca Fernandes, Classroom Assistant, at Cumberland High School, effective 12/1/2010 and returning on 1/3/2011. (Budgeted)**

**Mr. Wood made a motion to approve this leave of absence, 2nd by Mrs. Teel, approved 7-0.**

#### **Agenda Item #12: Comments from the Public**

**No comments at this time.**

**Agenda Item #13: School Committee Comments (School Liaison Reports)**

**Mr. Pedro advised everyone that Winter Wonderland is Sunday, December 12th at Diamond Hill State Park and the Cumberland Band will be performing at 2 p.m.**

**Also, the Cumberland High School Holiday Concert will be at the CHS Auditorium on Wednesday, December 15th at 7:30 p.m.**

**Mrs. Beaulieu stated that she had recently attended a workshop on grading systems and thought that it was very informative and noted that there was more information available and said that she would pass the information on to other members-the webinar is available on disc.**

**Agenda Item #14: Vote to go into Executive Session for Discussion on Items Referred to in RIGL 42-46-5:**

**A. Personnel Matters – Exception (1)**

**1) CTA/ICSE**

**B. Negotiations/Litigation – Exception (2)**

**1) CTA/ICSE**

**2) Potential Litigation**

**Mr. Mutter asked Mr. Rotella if there was going to be an Executive Session and Mr. Rotella answered “no”.**

**Agenda Item #15: Adjournment**

**Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Pedro and Mrs. Beaulieu and it**



**was 2nd by Mr. Pedro and Mrs. Beaulieu, approved 7-0.**

**The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.**

**Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Linda A. Jackvony.**